

**Barnes County Water Resource District
PO Box 306
Valley City, ND 58072
#845-8508**

DRAFT

Meeting Minutes

April 13th, 2026 – 9:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman – Jerry Hieb; Managers – Perry Schlagel, Scott Legge, Bruce Anderson, Bret Fehr.

OTHERS PRESENT: Sean Fredricks – Ohnstad Twichell; Mike Opat – Houston Engineering; Shawn Olauson – Barnes County Commissioner

Chairman Hieb called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Public Comment Period: No one submitted speaker cards to request permission to speak.

Manager Anderson moved to approve the minutes from the March 9th, 2026, meeting. Manager Schlagel seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously. Manager Anderson moved to approve the minutes from the March 13th, 2026, special meeting. Manager Schlagel seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Manager Legge moved to approve the bills as presented with the addition of two cost-share invoices for the Barnes-Maple Joint Board for \$507.00. Manager Fehr seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Thordenskjold Drain

There has been no petition brought forward at this time from the landowners. Manager Schlagel to go look at the culverts within the drain after the spring melt.

Clausen Springs Dam

The Board discussed the trash rack installation. The Board previously approved a motion to approve a construction contract with RC Welding & Machine Shop or Shawn Cole Construction; however, the motion included contingencies and those parties were not able to meet those contingencies. More specifically, RC Welding & Machine Shop and Shawn Cole Construction could not meet the licensing and insurance requirements. Manager Fehr moved to rescind the previous motion regarding any contract with RC Welding & Machine Shop or Shawn Cole Construction, and to approve a construction contract with Swanberg Construction not to exceed \$15,000, contingent upon Swanberg Construction's submission of evidence of a valid contractor license and submission of evidence that Swanberg Construction has secured the insurance coverage required under the contract. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Mike indicated the dam safety evaluation work has been paused. The EAP (Emergency Action Plan) has been finalized; electronic

copies have been distributed and hard copies requested by plan holders will be distributed by Secretary Cara.

Sheyenne River Bank Stabilization Study

No update at this time.

Hobart Lake

Manager Anderson to open the drain to allow approximately an inch of water drain. Discussion regarding possible options to lower the lake level to the required level.

Sanborn Lake Outlet

No change at this time.

Dam Inventory

Discussion was held regarding conveyance of ownership of dams to private parties. Secretary Cara to submit cost-share reimbursement request to the Red River Joint Water Resource District and the State Water Commission.

Brown Dam

Mike informed the board there has been no update from the US Game and Fish regarding funding with the Fish Passage Program.

Sheyenne River Snagging & Clearing

Secretary Cara to submit invoices for cost-share reimbursement to the State Water Commission.

2027 NDDWR Water Development Plan

Mike reported that the 2027 Water Development plan has been submitted to the North Dakota Department of Water Resources (NDDWR).

Pat Hurley Surface Drain Application No. 6842

The Board approved an Order regarding the permit on March 9th, 2026. Fredricks provided parties of record with a Notice of Decision and a copy of the Order. The appeal period has now expired. The Order included a condition that Mr. Hurley submit an as-built survey. The Board will keep this matter on the agenda to ensure Mr. Hurley meets that condition.

NEW BUSINESS

Flood Mitigation – Daniel Schwartz

Daniel Schwartz with Nexus Planning and Consulting and Jessica Jenrich the Barnes County Planning and Zoning administration were present to discuss Flood Mitigation Plan.

Engineer Report

Nothing more to be added.

Legal Report

Nothing more to be added.

With nothing more to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

APPROVED:

By: _____
Jerry Hieb, Chair

ATTEST:

Cara Didier
Secretary-Treasurer

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